


# Planning and Development Department Update

**DATE:** July 22, 2011  
**TO:** Mayor Setti D. Warren  
**FROM:** Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development   
**RE:** Friday Report  
**CC:** Board of Aldermen  
Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer

This weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

<b>Monday</b> <b>7/25/11</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>7/26/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newton Bicycle &amp; Pedestrian Task Force, 7:45 p.m., City Hall Cafeteria (basement level)</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>7/27/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newton Zoning Reform Group Public Workshop, 7:00 p.m., War Memorial Hall</li></ul>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>7/28/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newton Historical Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 202</li><li>• Traffic Council, 7:00 p.m., Room 222</li><li>• Conservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 209</li></ul>

- **The Newton Zoning Reform Group:** The Group will hold a public workshop on **Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the War Memorial Hall, City Hall. They will be presenting their work to date, discuss the process and substance of Zoning Ordinance reform in Newton, and solicit input and ideas from the public. The Zoning Reform Group is studying the current Ordinance to identify parts in need of updating or clarification. All are welcome to attend and join the conversation. **Contact Seth Zeren at 617.796.1145 or [szeren@newtonma.gov](mailto:szeren@newtonma.gov).**
- **Newton Historical Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday July 28<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 202. Items on the agenda include: **September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial**, review of proposed memorial at City Hall, **16 Cynthia Road**, request to demolish house; **55 Hanson Road**, request to demolish house; **24 Wilde Road**, request to demolish house; **1013 Beacon Street**, request to demolish roof (House) and request to partially demolish carriage house. **Administrative Discussion:** a) Minutes b) Historic Preservation Fund c) Reconsideration of recommendation: 9 Ripley Street. **Contact Brian Lever at 617.796.1129 or [blever@newtonma.gov](mailto:blever@newtonma.gov).**
- **Traffic Council:** The Council will meet on **Thursday July 28<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 222. The following items will be discussed: Donna Driscoll, **468 Watertown Street**, requesting a handicap parking space in front of her residence; Nancy Braudis, **57 Theodore Road**, requesting a pedestrian warning beacon with a crosswalk at **Theodore Road and Parker Street** (Note: this item was held on 12/16/10); Ward 8 Aldermen, requesting a review of traffic and pedestrian safety in the area of **Memorial-Spaulding School**, including parking, traffic signals, street markings, blue zones, student walking routes and any other considerations relevant to safety and traffic flow; Alderman Shapiro on behalf of the Newton South High School Principal and School Council, requesting parking restrictions between approximately **131 Brandeis Road** and the **Newton South High School** parking lot; Cate Burrell, on behalf of the Hills & Falls Nursery School, **258 Concord Street**, requesting a) extend time signs to run the length of the east side of Concord to Hager Streets, b) extend time on signs to include 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., c) requesting to reserve eight parking spaces for staff on the west side of Concord Street, and d) requesting painted designations where vehicles should park; Ald. Rice, requesting a "Do Not Enter" Sign at the intersection of **Beethoven Avenue and Beacon Street** on school days during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Contact David Koses at 617.796.1133 or [dkoses@newtonma.gov](mailto:dkoses@newtonma.gov).**
- **Conservation Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 p.m. in Room 209. The following items will be heard: **Cheesecake Brook wall repair (NOI)**, Department of Public Works; **Cheesecake Brook Greenway Albemarle Road (RDA)**, Proposal to replace existing four-foot- high chain-link fence with new fence, and move a portion closer to Cheesecake Brook; **149 Pleasant Street - Mason-Rice School (NOI)**,

PTO proposal to expand playground in riverfront; **Riverside Park Pedestrian Bridge (NOI)**, MASSDOT proposes to repair the pony-truss bridge between Weston and Newton and remove invasive vegetation in the 200-foot riverfront to the Charles River; **Charles River dredging of shaft 5 blow-out material (NOI)**, MWRA; **DCR Vegetation Management Plan/Yearly Operating Plan (RDA)**, Northern Tree Service will use herbicides and mechanical removal of vegetation throughout Newton; **210 Nahanton Street RDA**, Nahanton Woods Condo. (continued from June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting); **119 Harwich Road (NOI)**, demolition of single-family house, removal of 3 mature maple trees, and construction of new house in the 100-foot buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetland; **100 Suffolk Road (RDA)**, renovation of existing deck and existing sunroom in 100-foot buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetland (continued from June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting); **Lot 5 Kessler Woods amended NOI**, proposal to increase the amount of impervious area in riverfront and in the 100-foot buffer to bordering vegetated wetland; **61 Verndale Road amended NOI**, proposal to change grading for compensatory flood storage; **483 Dedham Street four expired OOC's Discussion**, Charles River Country Club (CRCC) 239-449 Pump Station, CRCC 239-400 15<sup>th</sup> Fairway, CRCC 239-364, various work in wetland under "Watershed Management Plan," CRCC 239-362 drainage work on 8<sup>th</sup> Fairway. **Violations (new and updates): 73 Beaconwood Road; 320-322 Needham Street; 75-85-95 Wells Avenue; 193 Oak Street – Village Condos.** **Certificates of Compliance: Charles River dock expansion**, Charles River Canoe & Kayak; **Riverside MBTA Station**, no as-built or letter submitted. **Discussion/Reports: Hammond Pond** consideration of request to receive Shaw's donation of \$150,000 for improvements; **Flowed Meadow**, consideration of return of funds to CPC; **proposed Eagle Scout project**, Noah Carlen proposal to re-open access path to Helen Heyn Conservation Area; **31 Selwyn Street (OOC)**, DEP sent notification it will issue Superseding OOC (site visit August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m.). **Announcements & General Business: reconsideration of May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and approval of June 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes.** To view the full agenda please go to [www.newtonma.gov/Planning/cityplcc.htm](http://www.newtonma.gov/Planning/cityplcc.htm) or **Contact Anne Phelps at 617.796.1134 or [aphelps@newtonma.gov](mailto:aphelps@newtonma.gov).**

- **Newton Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force:** The Task Force will meet on **Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>** at 7:45 p.m. in the Cafeteria of City Hall, basement level. Meetings are open to the public and attendees are invited to express their concerns about walking and bicycling in Newton. Proposals for improvements in the safety and convenience of pedestrian and bicycle facilities are particularly welcome. For more information, e-mail [newtonbikeped@gmail.com](mailto:newtonbikeped@gmail.com) or visit the website <http://www.newtonbikeped.org>.
- **Announcing the "Commercial Real Estate Connection":** Are you a business owner looking to rent retail, office, R&D, or industrial space in Newton? Are you a property owner or broker with a space in Newton that is seeking a tenant? Are you someone who shops or works in Newton's village centers or commercial corridors and wonders what the City can do to fill vacant storefronts? We are pleased to announce the "Commercial Real Estate Connection." This service, which provides listings of commercial vacancies that will be updated frequently and is part of a recent overhaul of the City's Economic Development website:

[www.newtonma.gov/business](http://www.newtonma.gov/business). This link makes it easier for those who are unfamiliar with Newton to learn about the City's geographic and demographic advantages, understand our unique landscape of village centers and commercial corridors, and know who to call for assistance in City Hall. **Contact Amanda Stout at 617.796.1127 or [astout@newtonma.gov](mailto:astout@newtonma.gov).**



- **Community Preservation Committee:** The Committee's next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Newton Senior Center (345 Walnut Street, Newtonville). The agenda has not been finalized, but is expected to include a housing pre-proposal and an off-cycle historic resources full proposal, on which there may be a funding vote. Final agendas, pre-proposals and proposals are made available before the meeting from [www.newtonma.gov/cpa](http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa). The Committee now requires pre-proposals, which it accepts for & discusses at any of its regular, monthly public meetings. **The last possible date to submit a pre-proposal for the next funding round will be July 1, 2012 – a year from now – but the earlier you submit your pre-proposal, the better.** For more information **contact Alice E. Ingerson, Community Preservation Program Manager, [www.newtonma.gov/cpa](http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa), 617.796.1144 or [aingerson@newtonma.gov](mailto:aingerson@newtonma.gov).**